

VZCZCXRO1955

OO RUEHAO RUEHCD RUEHGA RUEHGD RUEHGR RUEHHA RUEHHO RUEHMC RUEHMT

RUEHNG RUEHNL RUEHQU RUEHRC RUEHRS RUEHTM RUEHVC

DE RUEHTG #0742 2252010

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

O 132010Z AUG 09 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0422

INFO RUEHWH/WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS IMMEDIATE

RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 0527

RUEAHND/COMJTF-B SOTO CANO HO IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUMIAAA/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE

RUEAHND/CDRJTFB SOTO CANO HO IMMEDIATE

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RULGPSU/COMSOC SOUTH IMMEDIATE

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUMIAAA/USOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 000742

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MOPS](#) [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [MASS](#) [EAID](#) [HO](#)

SUBJECT: TFH01: HONDURAN PEACEKEEPING FORCES RETURN BEFORE

UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT

¶11. (SBU) Spain canceled its arrangement to include a Honduran unit in its contribution to UNIFIL in Lebanon and returned it to Honduras from Spain, as a strong sign of its rejection of the June 28 coup against President Zelaya. The 51-member Honduran peacekeeping (PKO) force had been undergoing two months of pre-deployment training in Spain; it was returned to Honduras August 10 prior to their planned UNIFIL mission in Lebanon. The PKO force was to serve under Spanish military command and control during their Lebanon deployment pursuant to a Honduran-Spanish bilateral agreement. The Honduran PKO unit had received training and equipment funded by the USG as part of the Global Peacekeeping Operations Initiative.

¶12. (SBU) The repatriation is another strong signal to the de facto regime of international opposition to the coup, and that Honduras' relationship with its international partners has been damaged as a result. The deployment of the PKO unit, based on a March 2009 technical agreement between the governments of Spain and Honduras, was considered a significant and prestigious accomplishment for the HOAF and Honduras, a sign of a successful effort to transform the HOAF into a 21st century - capable force prepared to serve present needs and promote peace and security.

LLORENS